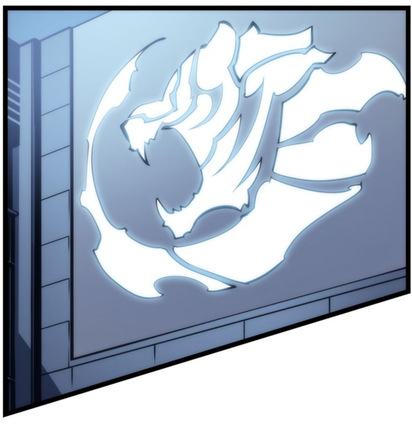
Solo Leveling

Art · DUBU(REDICE STUDIO)
Original Novel · Chugong
Story · h-goon

94



A HUNTER THAT CAN BECOME STRONGER ACTUALLY EXISTS...

I WONDER HOW MUCH HE'S WORTH.

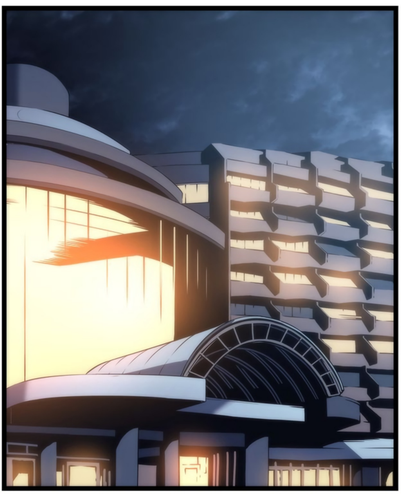
TRYING TO RECRUIT SUNG JINWOO WAS JUST A WASTE OF TIME AND ENERGY.

BUT THERE ARE MANY OTHER WAYS TO MAINTAIN A RELATIONSHIP WITH A TALENTED HUNTER.

IT'S TIME FOR PLAN B.

LOOKS LIKE THIS IS THE LIST OF HUNTERS THAT WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN THE UPCOMING SEARCH-AND-DESTROY MISSION.

SUNG JINWOO IS NOT ON THE LIST?!



MR. SUGIMOTO.
...IT TURNS OUT THERE IS A PRETTY SKILLED HUNTER HERE IN SOUTH KOREA.
SCOTCH RED

HAHA.
BUT SURELY NOT
AS STRONG AS YOU,
MR. GOTO.

SUGIMOTO REIJI (S-RANK)
VICE GUILD MASTER OF
THE BLADE GUILD

WELL... I'M NOT
SO SURE ABOUT
THAT.

*WHAT IS THE
HUNTER'S
NAME?*

SUNG JINWOO.

HE UNDERWENT A
SECOND AWAKENING
AND WAS RECENTLY
EVALUATED AS AN
S-RANK.

THAT'S ODD. I DON'T SEE HIS NAME LISTED HERE.
WHAT? WHAT DO YOU MEAN HIS NAME ISN'T LISTED?

AH, PARDON ME. I DIDN'T EXPLAIN.
SOUTH KOREA JUST SENT OVER THEIR LIST OF HUNTERS.

CHOI JONG-IN, MA DONGWOOK, BAEK YOONHO, CHA HAE-IN, LIM TAE-GYU, AND MIN BYUNG-GU.
THESE SIX HUNTERS MAKE UP THE SOUTH KOREAN TEAM THAT WILL BE HEADING TO JEJU ISLAND IN FOUR DAYS TIME.
THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE.

CHAIRMAN GO WOULD BE CRAZY NOT TO INCLUDE A HUNTER AS STRONG AS SUNG JINWOO IN HIS RAID TEAM...
NO NEED TO WORRY. THERE WILL BE 16 S-RANK HUNTERS PARTICIPATING IN THIS UPCOMING RAID.

EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE.

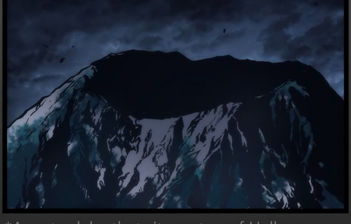
ALL RIGHT...

I GUESS I GOT WORRIED FOR NOTHING.

I'LL GIVE YOU ANOTHER CALL ONCE THE RAID BEGINS.

OKAY.

HALLASAN, BAENGNOKDAM*

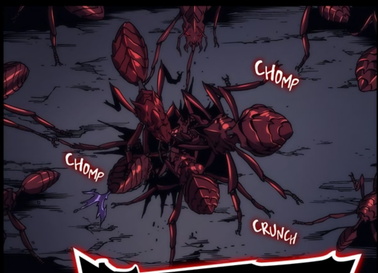


*A crater lake that sits on top of Hallasan, or Mount Halla. The name translates to "white deer lake."

WE MUST ABANDON THIS ISLAND.

THERE IS NO FOOD HERE.

OUR CHILDREN ARE EATING THEIR CHILDREN.



THERE IS NO LONGER ANY FOOD HERE TO SUPPORT THE CITIZENS OF OUR KINGDOM.

WE CANNOT ALLOW THIS TO CONTINUE.

WE NEED A STRONGER SOLDIER...
AN ALL-POWERFUL SOLDIER TO LEAD THE CITIZENS OF OUR KINGDOM.

FOR THE SAKE OF OUR KINGDOM,

MAKE THE ENEMIES WHO STAND IN OUR WAY TREMBLE IN FEAR.

FOR THE SAKE OF OUR KINGDOM,

MAKE THE ENEMIES WHO STAND IN OUR WAY TREMBLE IN FEAR.

MAKE THE ENEMIES WHO STAND IN OUR WAY TREMBLE IN FEAR.

YOU MUST BECOME STRONGER.

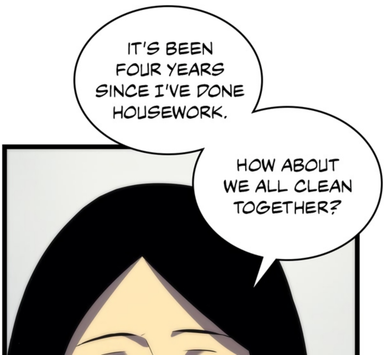
YOU MUST BECOME STRONGER.
SCREECH

CONSUME ALL THERE
IS TO CONSUME...

...AND BECOME
STRONGER,

MY CHILD.

THIS PLACE IS A MESS. LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE DIDN'T CLEAN WHILE I WAS AWAY AT THE DEMONS' CASTLE.
OUCHIE.
SQUISH
SQUEEZE
Shadow


IT'S BEEN FOUR YEARS SINCE I'VE DONE HOUSEWORK.
HOW ABOUT WE ALL CLEAN TOGETHER?

OF COURSE. WE'VE BEEN LIVING HERE SINCE WE WERE KIDS.

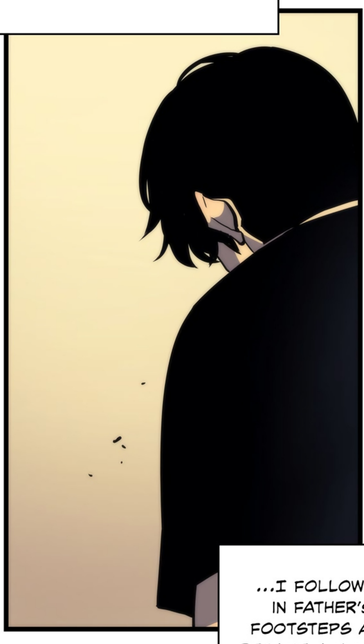
JINWOO,
DID YOU...

...RECEIVE ANY NEWS ABOUT YOUR FATHER...
...WHILE I WAS ASLEEP?

...

NO.

I WONDER WHAT MY MOTHER WOULD SAY IF I TOLD HER THAT...



...I FOLLOWED IN FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS AND BECAME A HUNTER.

HE'S THE REASON WHY SHE DOESN'T WANT TO LEAVE THIS OLD APARTMENT.

EVEN THOUGH I'VE ALREADY MADE MORE MONEY THAN MOST PEOPLE WILL EVER SEE IN A LIFETIME,

HE'S THE REASON WHY WE'RE STILL HERE, PAYING RENT EVERY MONTH.

ALTHOUGH HE WENT MISSING YEARS AGO, SHE'S STILL WAITING FOR HIM,

HOPING THAT HE'LL COME BACK ONE DAY.

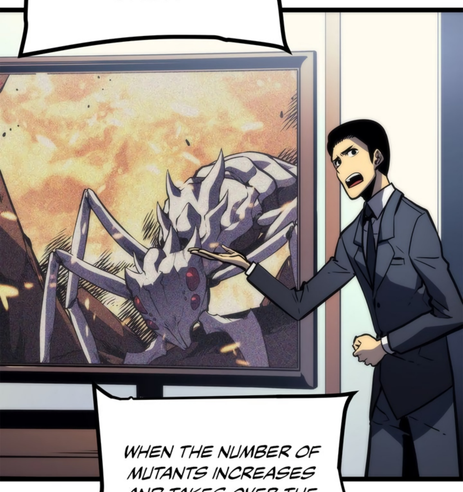
THIS FAMILY, NO...

MY MOTHER NEEDS ME.

THE JEJU ISLAND RAID IS...

THE ANTS ARE EVOLVING AT AN

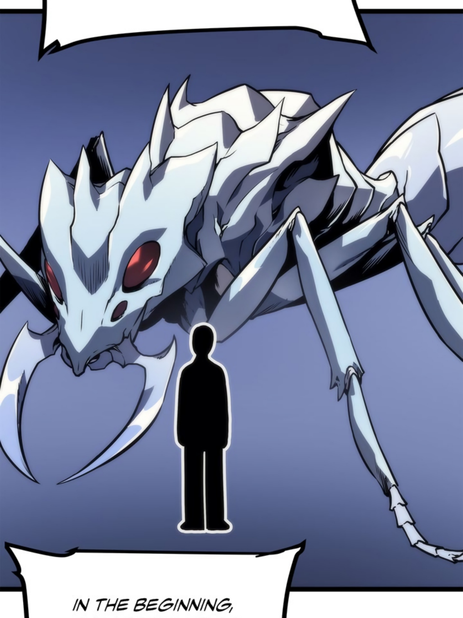
EVOLVING AT AN ASTOUNDING SPEED.



WHEN THE NUMBER OF MUTANTS INCREASES AND TAKES OVER THE ENTIRE COLONY,

WE CALL THAT **EVOLUTION.**

THIS HERE IS A PICTURE OF AN ANT PHOTOGRAPHED AT THE TIME OF THE FIRST AND SECOND SEARCH-AND-DESTROY MISSIONS.



IN THE BEGINNING, THEY CRAWLED ON THE GROUND LIKE REGULAR ANTS.

THERE DIDN'T SEEM TO BE ANY DIFFERENCE IN APPEARANCE, OTHER THAN THE FACT THAT THEY WERE JUST GIGANTIC IN SIZE.

HOWEVER,

THIS IS A PICTURE THAT WAS TAKEN DURING THE THIRD SEARCH-AND-DESTROY MISSION.

AS YOU CAN SEE, THE ANTS ARE NOW STANDING UPRIGHT LIKE HUMANS, AND THEIR HEADS HAVE BECOME MUCH SMALLER, ALLOWING FOR MORE NIMBLE MOVEMENT.

THEY CAN NOW USE FOUR OF THEIR LEGS AS HANDS, TOO.

IT ONLY TOOK TWO YEARS FOR THEM TO CHANGE THE CORE CHARACTERISTICS OF THEIR SPECIES.

IT DOESN'T STOP THERE. THIS HERE IS THE MOST RECENTLY TAKEN PHOTOGRAPH. THIS IS THE BEAST THAT WREAKED HAVOC IN JAPAN.

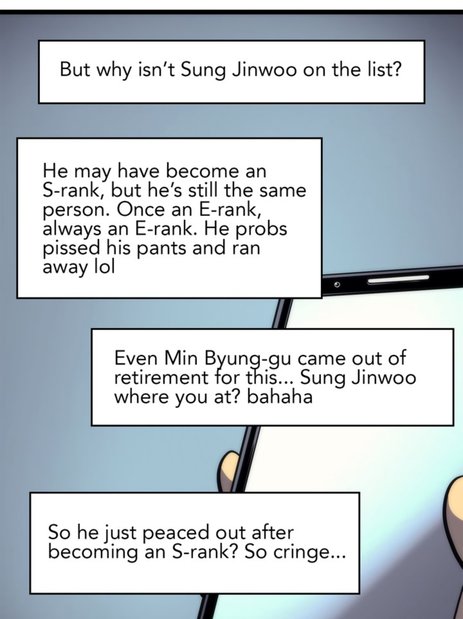
THEY NOW POSSESS MORE HUMAN-LIKE FEATURES...

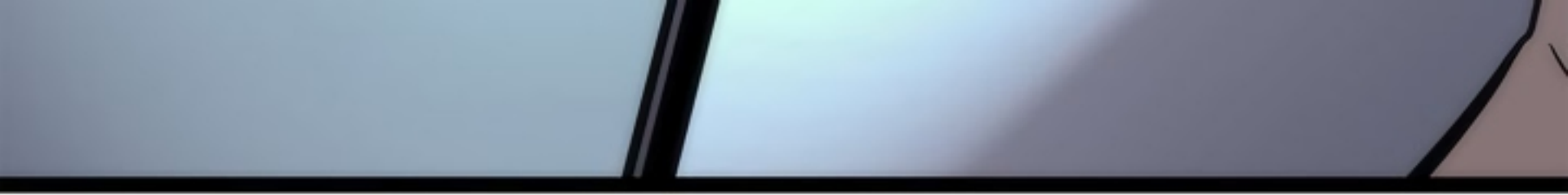
...AND EVEN HAVE WINGS ON THEIR BACKS.

THOSE THINGS CAN FLY AROUND?

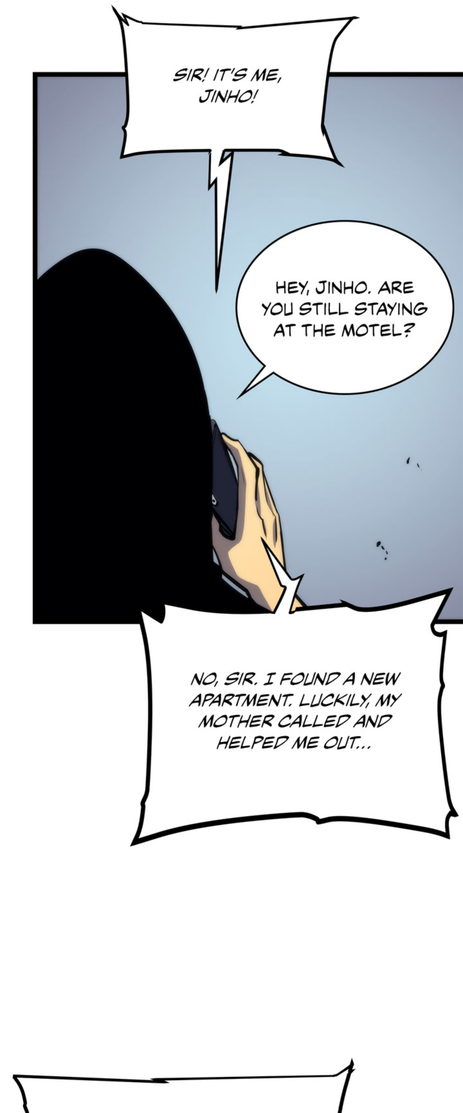
YES.
THAT'S THE MAIN REASON WHY SOUTH KOREA AND JAPAN HAVE AGREED TO CREATE A UNITED TEAM.

EVEN A PERFECTLY CAPABLE HUNTER WOULD WANT TO RUN AWAY FROM A FRIGHTENING MAGIC BEAST LIKE THAT.
TRUE. HOWEVER, THERE'S A RETIRED HUNTER WHO MUSTERED UP THE COURAGE TO JOIN THE RAID.


But why isn't Sung Jinwoo on the list?
He may have become an S-rank, but he's still the same person. Once an E-rank, always an E-rank. He probs pissed his pants and ran away lol
Even Min Byung-gu came out of retirement for this... Sung Jinwoo where you at? bahaha
So he just peaced out after becoming an S-rank? So cringe...



I DON'T REALLY CARE ABOUT HATE COMMENTS, BUT...
...I'M WORRIED ABOUT JINAH.
BZZZ
HEY, ISN'T THAT SUNG JINWOO?


SIR! IT'S ME, JINHO!
HEY, JINHO. ARE YOU STILL STAYING AT THE MOTEL?
NO, SIR. I FOUND A NEW APARTMENT. LUCKILY, MY MOTHER CALLED AND HELPED ME OUT...

ANYWAY, I FOUND US AN OFFICE SPACE. DO YOU HAVE TIME TO COME AND TAKE A LOOK?

AN OFFICE SPACE?

YOU NEED AN OFFICE IF YOU WANT TO FORM A GUILD!

WHAT DO YOU THINK, SIR? I CHOSE THE BEST OPTION OUT OF ALL THE BUILDINGS NEAR YOUR APARTMENT!

...ISN'T THIS PLACE A BIT TOO BIG FOR JUST THE TWO OF US?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? YOU NEED AT LEAST THREE HUNTERS TO ESTABLISH A GUILD.

A GUILD MASTER, A VICE GUILD MASTER, AND AN EMPLOYEE.

THEN THAT MEANS I HAVE TO RECRUIT ONE MORE PERSON.

I'LL JUST PICK AND CHOOSE A HUNTER I KNOW TO FILL THE HEADCOUNT...

OH, YEAH. SOMEONE WAS LOOKING FOR YOU, SIR.

FOR ME?

WHO?

RUMMAGE

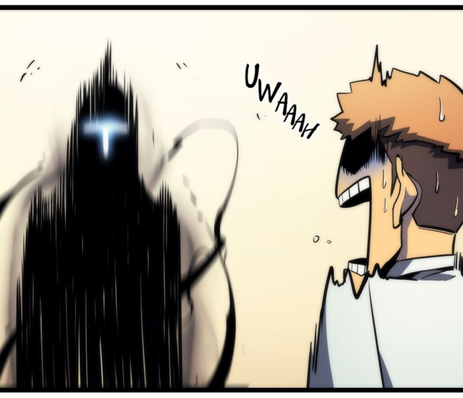
IT WAS A FOREIGNER...

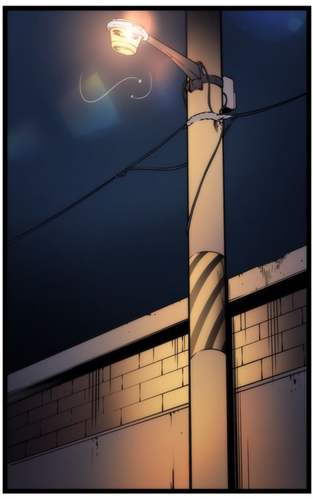
THEY WANT YOU TO GIVE THEM A CALL. THEY SAID THEY'D BE IN KOREA UNTIL THE 17TH OF JULY.

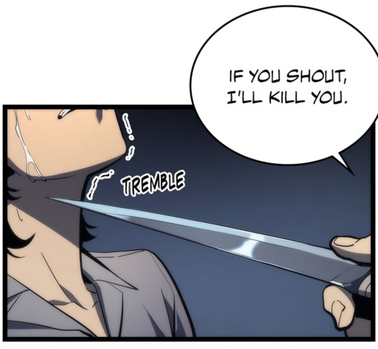
A FOREIGNER...? WHO COULD IT BE?

UH, HOLD ON.
FSHHH
WHAT'S THE MATTER, SIR?
I NEED TO GO HOME.

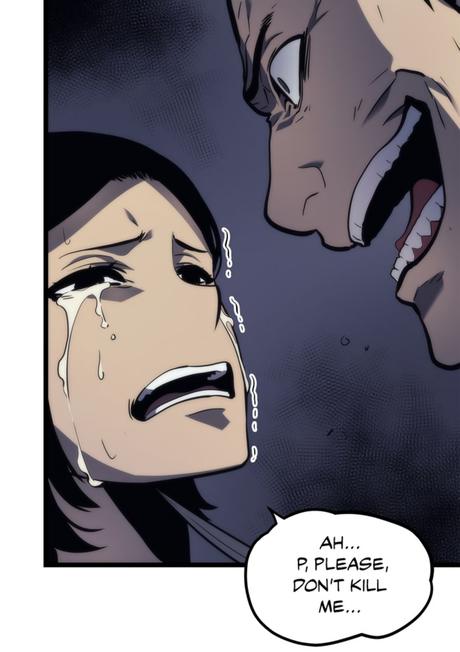
!
SWISH


UWAAAH!



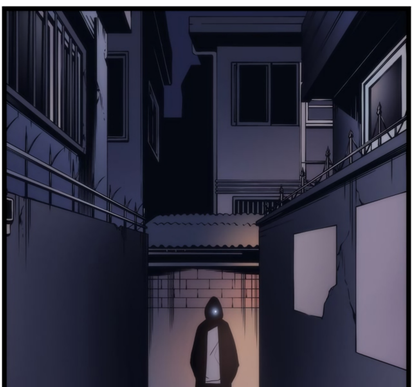

IF YOU SHOUT, I'LL KILL YOU.
TREMBLE

YOU KNOW THAT A FEW PEOPLE WERE MURDERED HERE... RIGHT?


AH...
P, PLEASE,
DON'T KILL
ME...

THIS IS
WHY I LOVE THIS
NEIGHBORHOOD.

I KNOW, RIGHT?
I LOVE THIS
NEIGHBORHOOD,
TOO.

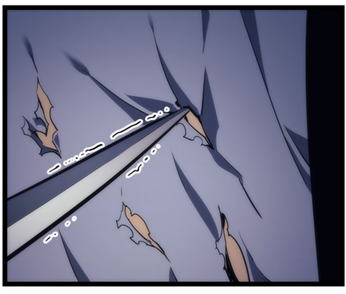


OUT OF CURIOSITY,
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?
YOU HERE TO LECTURE ME OR SOMETHING?
REASONS SHMEASONS.
I DON'T THINK ABOUT THAT KIND OF STUFF, BUT IF I HAD TO ANSWER...
...BECAUSE IT'S FUN?!

SWOOSH

WHEN I SET MY SIGHTS ON SOMEONE WEAKER THAN ME, I GET THE URGE TO HARASS TH-
STAB
STAB
STAB

I CAN SOMEWHAT RELATE TO THAT.



ONCE YOU GET A TASTE, THOUGH,

SLASH

RETURNING TO NORMAL LIFE ISN'T EASY

AAAHHH!!
ARGH!!

IT WOULD'VE BEEN NICE TO GO HOME...
...BEFORE IT GOT SO DARK.

DASH!

TURN YOURSELF IN BEFORE MIDNIGHT.

IF YOU WANT TO LIVE, THAT IS.

IF HE DOESN'T TURN HIMSELF IN BEFORE MIDNIGHT, KILL HIM.

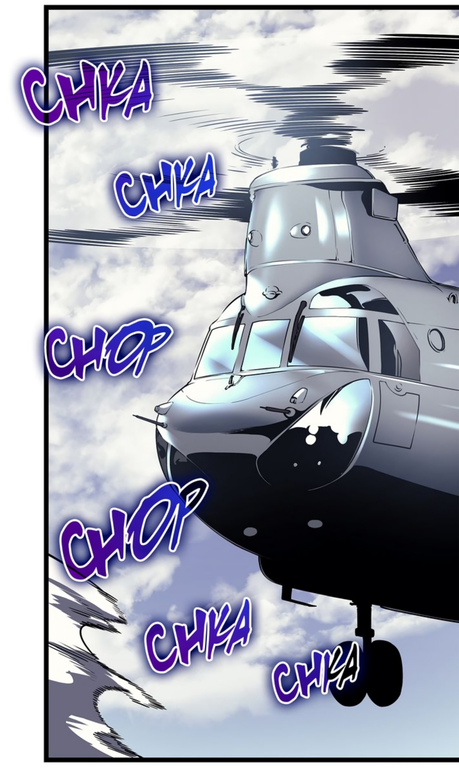
I WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE FOR YOU TO LIVE.

THOUGH I'M NOT SURE EXACTLY HOW PATIENT MY HIGH ORC SHADOW SOLDIER IS...

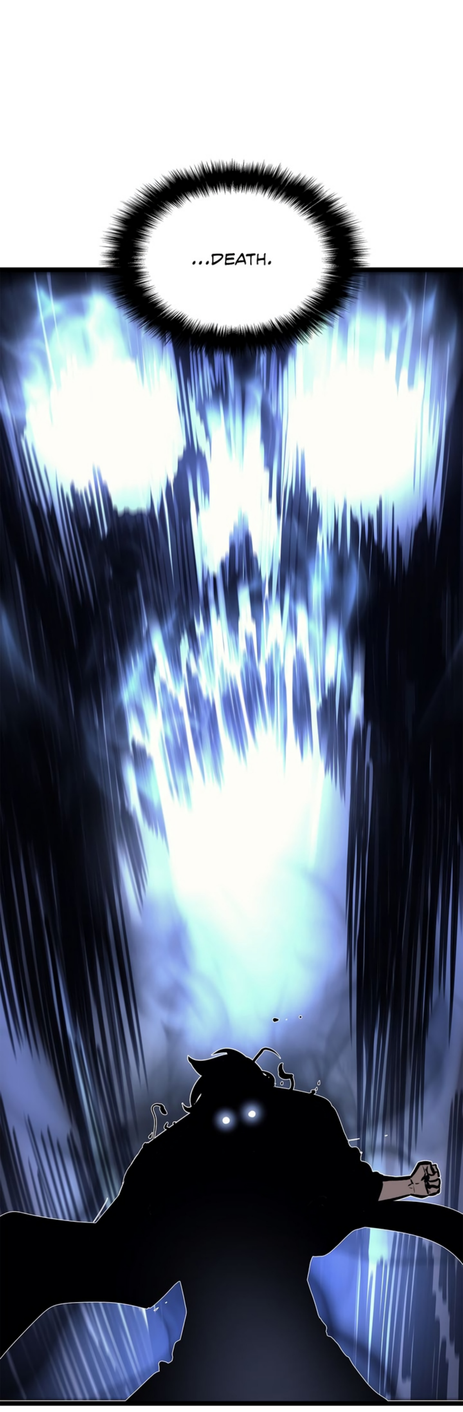
TOMORROW'S THE DAY...

...THE JEJU ISLAND RAID BEGINS.

THE NEXT DAY



THE HELICOPTER CARRYING THE HUNTERS FLEW TOWARD JEJU ISLAND.


...DEATH.

HAA...
WHAT'S WRONG
WITH ME...?
I'VE
BECOME OVERLY
SENSITIVE...

To Be Continued...

D&C WEBTOON

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